EVENTS

Winchester residents to brave cold for second Polar Plunge benefitting indoor community pool

March 18, 2026 . 12:01 PM — 2 min read

The first Polar Plunge was such a success for Swim Medford that the organization is holding a second event on Sunday, March 22 at Shannon Beach, beginning at 1:30 p.m. with registration. COURTESY PHOTO/SWIM WINCHESTER

The following was submitted by Swim Medford:

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On Sunday, March 22, members of the Winchester community will trade their winter coats for swimsuits as they participate in the Second Annual Swim Winchester Polar Plunge.

The event, held at Shannon Beach on Upper Mystic Lake, aims to raise awareness and support for the construction of a year-round indoor community aquatics center in Winchester.

Following the success of last year's inaugural plunge in April, the event has moved to March, offering a more traditional "polar" experience for participants. Registration opens on-site at 1:30 p.m., with the official plunge scheduled for 2 p.m.

"This event is about more than just a refreshing dip in the lake; it's about the warmth of our community coming together for a shared goal," said Beverly Antunes, Swim Winchester Board member and event co-organizer. "We are working to create a space where everyone — from our youngest swimmers to our seniors — can enjoy the benefits of water safety and recreation all year long."

The Polar Plunge is a free event open to all residents and spectators.

To celebrate the brave participants, Swim Winchester will hold a prize drawing immediately following the plunge. Lucky swimmers and spectators will have the chance to win gift cards to local Winchester businesses, with a grand prize of two tickets to the upcoming Broadway production of "Beauty and the Beast" at the Citizens House Opera in Boston.

Swim Winchester is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to building a sustainable, accessible, and affordable indoor aquatics facility. Currently, Winchester lacks a year-round public pool, a gap that Winchester seeks to fill through its partnership with the town.

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Participants are encouraged to bring warm layers, dry clothes, and a sense of adventure.

For more information about the event or to learn more about the mission to build a town pool, please visit www.swimwinchester.org.

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The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: The Network For Social Justice turns 35 this spring! There will be a celebration on Saturday, April 11, from 7-9:30 p.m., at the Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St., Winchester. Connect with your local friends and neighbors as

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Winchester Community Music School presents Jazz Jam Session

The following was submitted by the Winchester Community Music School: On Saturday, March 28, join the community at Winchester Community Music School, 407 Highland Ave., for a Jazz Ja afternoon of fun, spontane

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beginning at 3 p.m. Instrumentalists and vocalists of all skill levels are

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EVENTS

Winchester Unitarian Society hosts Community Blood Drive

The following was submitted by the Winchester Unitarian Society: On Monday, March 30, the American Red Cross will be holding a Community Blood Drive at Winchester Unitarian Society, Metcalf Hall, 478 Main St., from 2-7 p.m. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter the sponsor code

March 24, 2026

EVENTS

Winchester High School hosts Science & Engineering Night

The following was submitted by Winchester Public Schools: On Thursday, April 2, Winchester High School will host Science & Engineering Night, from 5-7 p.m. This is the first time for this event, and the goal is to get students excited about science. It is a free event for families

March 24, 2026

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NEWS

Winchester ZBA waives town regulations to move Washington/Swanton project along

Town officials have approved waivers of regulations for a residential/commercial development project at Washington and Swanton streets. The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) on March 19 approved the waivers for a 40B project at 278-292 Washington St. and 12 and 16-20 Swanton St. in a special meeting preceding a

NEIL ZOLOT | CORRESPONDENT
March 26, 2026

NEWS

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He won all eight precincts after a door-to-door campaign that emphasized direct voter contact over institutional backing.

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER
March 25, 2026

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